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Integration of geospatial, statistical and other information

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, which is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the work of the Expert Group and on the way forward for the global geospatial information management community to actively contribute to the integration of geospatial, statistical and other information.

Summary of the report

At its fourth session, held in New York from 6 to 8 August 2014, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 4/105, in which it welcomed the report prepared by the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information and commended the leadership taken by the Expert Group in formulating a programme of work that included an international workshop held in Beijing from 9 to 12 June 2014; and a global forum held in New York on 4 and 5 August 2014, on the margins of the fourth session. The two events prompted solid engagement by and synergy between the statistical and geospatial communities. The Committee of Experts endorsed the terms of reference of the Expert Group, including its programme of work and areas of focus, and took note of the suggestions from Member States regarding the need to consider big data, the 2020 round of censuses and other information as means of integration, while avoiding duplication of efforts.

* E/C.20/2015/1.

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In its report, the Expert Group provides information on its recent activities, including the major recommendations of the global forum and the main outcomes of the second meeting of the Expert Group, held in Lisbon in May 2015. Pursuant to the request of the Committee of Experts at its fourth session, the Expert Group also describes progress made towards integration of the 2020 round of censuses into a global geospatial-statistical framework.